

# **SOLIDARITY WITH INDIAN FARMERS**

## **TWITTER STORM**

Thank you for joining this multiple day twitter storm to highlight the escalating violence and injustices facing Indian Farmers who have been protesting peacefully for over 2 months.

***THIS ONLINE ACTION HAS BEEN PUT TOGETHER BY CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS  
-UNDER NO BANNER -***

**What are they protesting?** The protesters are demanding the repeal of [new laws](#) in relation to agriculture reform that politicians from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party hurriedly passed in September [without sufficiently consulting farmers](#) AND by not allowing for proper parliamentary scrutiny and for the resolution to be put to a vote, despite motions from Members of Parliament in opposition. Prior to the same, it had been pushed by misusing the emergency ordinance route amidst the pandemic caused lockdown. Modi's government claims the new laws will liberalize the industry and nationalize the agricultural market (read: will centralise the local state regulated subject of agriculture).

More information/ [CHEAT SHEET](#)

[#ASK INDIA WHY TOOL KIT](#)

**The Indian Government is brutalizing, arresting and killing their citizens, 100s have already been injured, many are missing and many individuals are already reported dead.**

- The government has ordered for the internet to be shut down at protest sites and the surrounding areas in order to create a social media blackout and stop communications to the rest of the world.
- Police have attacked peaceful protestors using tear gas, petrol bombs, batons and water canons.
- Police have also cut food and fresh water supplies in an attempt to starve the protestors. The police have cut entry to and from protest sites, by installing barricades, concrete, spikes and digging up roads, in order to prevent food, water and essentials reaching the peaceful protestors. Police have now also cut off access to/ from lavatories and sanitation facilities, installed by humanitarian aid organisations/ charities from all around the world. This had made conditions for the peaceful protestors unsanitary and there is now a risk of the spread of infections and diseases.
- Undemocratic Laws - Why would you pass heavily contested laws, first as ordinances (during lockdown necessitated by a global pandemic) and then through the Parliament without voting despite motions / opposition?

**WHY ARE FARMERS PROTESTING THESE NEW LAWS:** Currently, farmers take their produce to wholesale markets or *mandis* governed by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). The APMC in every state decides the prices it will pay the producers, and then sells them further. Yes, the sector is in need of reforms to improve the markets but the new laws aim to deregulate farming under the guise of positively reforming it, opening it up to exploitation by large corporations and even gives tax exemptions to weaken the state mechanism instead of strengthening it. These laws only benefit such companies and jeopardize the livelihoods of the vast majority of farmers, who are small & marginal, in India.

- Farmer bodies from across the country have been protesting in the national capital for the past 60 days demanding that the farm laws be rolled back.
- Their opposition centres around three agricultural laws that will deregulate supply chains and allow corporations to enter a fragmented and liberalised market, where they can dictate prices and deal with farmers. The impact of these new laws will play out over generations, and those on strike fear the shift of power and control away from the field and farmers towards processors, buyers and retailers.

**The [Adani Files](#) were created and presented to Australian government by various human rights organizations when it was made public that Adani was looking to invest in the mining industry there.** This document exposes Gautam Adani and his corporation, the Adani Group. The files both highlight and provide evidence of the corruption, destruction and criminal activity which run rampant within the Adani Group. These files make it clear that the large corporations that **India's Prime Minister Modi is working with/for are undoubtedly looking to remove barriers in the agricultural market in India which stop them from exploiting and monopolizing farming.** Both Adani and Ambani are ruthless businessmen and it is obvious that none of them care about farmers, or India for that matter. **They are only looking to protect and expand their investments even if it costs them lives. These laws are designed to eliminate farmers through illogical amounts of deregulation and need to be repealed.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE NEW LAWS:** The implications of this strike extend far beyond the subcontinent and the Indian agriculture industry. Regardless of the economic arguments for or against the reforms, one thing is clear: Indian farmers are protesting to preserve their land and livelihoods. Their frustrations match those of small farmers in many countries.

- This is a global issue — as corporate farms increase their share of land ownership, an estimated [70% percent](#) of all farmland around the world is controlled by only 1% of farms. The shift in land ownership from smallholders to corporations has mostly taken place in the US and Europe, whose governments have supported agribusiness interests. Countries such as India are now seeing this rapid trend reflected in their own land distribution.
- **Land inequality** and corporate consolidation of the agriculture industry undermine the ability to **maintain sustainable economic and environmental systems.** As the researchers from the [Land Inequality Initiative](#) report, "Smallholders and family farms, indigenous peoples, rural women, youth, and landless rural communities are being squeezed into smaller parcels of land or forced off the land altogether, while more and more land is concentrated in fewer hands, mainly serving the interests of corporate agribusiness and distant investors, utilizing industrial models of production that employ fewer and fewer people."
- When land is concentrated in the hands of a few industrial farming operations, sustainable farming practices are replaced with [destructive monocultures](#) that erode soil quality, overuse resources, and lead to environmental degradation.

**THE WOMEN BEHIND THE INDIAN FARMERS PROTEST:** While men dominate the public image of the farmers protesting in India, women are very much there as well. In fact, female farmers will be among some of the worst affected by the new laws.

- According to Mahila Kisan Adhikaar Manch (MAKAAM), an Indian forum that campaigns for the rights of female farmers, 75 percent of all farm work is conducted by women yet they own only 12 percent of the land.

- Kavitha Kuruganti of MAKAAAM says the lack of land ownership makes female farmers “invisible”. Without land, they are not recognised as farmers despite their large contributions to the sector and this marginalisation means they are especially vulnerable to exploitation by large corporations under the new laws.
- The lack of safeguards from the government for pricing will widen the gender gap in farming as the premise of “increasing competition” assumes women are able to trade as easily as men when they are subject to greater limitations, such as accessibility to transport and being responsible for duties at home, for example.

**With this social media ‘storm’, our goal is to draw more attention to these abhorrent actions, and put pressure on those who can stop this from continuing!**

**List of accounts to follow:**

<https://landworkersalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Indian-Farmer-Protests-Resource-List.pdf>

**Other Actions You Can Take:**

1. [Petition to Abolish the 3 Farm Bills & Support the Protesting Farmers](#)
2. [Petition to UN - Freedom to express dissent is a key pillar of democracy](#)
3. [How you can petition the UK MPs to support the farmers in India](#)
4. [Urge the Indian Government to ensure safety of protestors & press freedom](#)

***Please post on social media en mass:***

 **Thursday the 4th of Feb from 11-2pm GMT**

 **Friday the 5th of Feb from 11-2pm GMT**

*More times TBA if necessary.*

Posting as many times as possible from as many accounts using the same hashtag and tagging specific accounts at this time allows us to get maximum engagement - please pass this information to as many people as you can, to engage in this online action.

**Tags:**

@IndianFarmers\_

**Calling on:**

@Unitednations  
@UNHumanRights  
@amnestyuk  
@BorisJohnson  
@10DowningStreet  
@NUJofficial  
@IFJGlobal

**Hashtags:**

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

**Political/Govt Accounts:**

@PMOIndia  
@narendramodi  
@gssjodhpur  
@mygovindia  
@MIB\_India  
@PIB\_India

@gautam\_adani

@nstomar

@BPRDIndia

@MoRD\_GOI

**Support:**

@GretaThunberg  
@rihanna  
@stopadanimovement  
@landworkersalliance  
@jindisinghka  
@FFFIndia

**WE NEED YOU! PLEASE SHARE AND ASK OTHERS TO TAKE ACTION!!!!**

## **Suggested Posts:**

- *These are just some suggested posts, but feel free to tweet your own.*
- *It's helpful if you add images or videos to your tweets (some images below).*
- *You can also tag others who can either reshare and/or the potential tags listed above to put pressure on them as well.*
- *Also make sure to like and retweet other tweets you see from other accounts to help! You can search other individuals tweets by searching the most recent hashtags*

.@BorisJohnson at @10DowningStreet @BPRDIndia Police have violated @Unitednations Human Rights by cutting the internet silencing millions of voices.  
#FarmersProtest #StandWithFarmers #TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

@rihanna/ (Celebrity/Influential Person) @ Why are we not talking about this?

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/02/01/asia/india-internet-cut-farmers-intl-hnk/index.html>

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

.@BPRDIndia Police & PM @narendramodi are stripping @IndianFarmers\_ of their human rights.

@UNHumanRights are you watching? @BorisJohnson @10DowningStreet

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@Unitednations The three farm laws will further worsen the situation for women whose lives are already facing a severe crisis due to skyrocketing prices of essential commodities. @NAWOorg @UN\_CSW

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@mygovindia These laws are designed to eliminate @IndianFarmers\_ through illogical amounts of deregulation and need to be repealed. Stand by the people!!  
#StandWithFarmers because #TheWorldIsWatching

@PIB\_India @MIB\_India @NUJofficial @IFJGlobal

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@BPRDIndia Police have attacked peaceful protestors using tear gas, batons and water canons. - When does it stop? @PMOIndia, @UNHumanRights, @gssjodhpur, @amnestyuk

Lives are already being lost!

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@BorisJohnson - more than 100 MP's like @TanDhes, @RupaHuq & @BellRibeiroAddyi have signed a cross-party letter - It's time to press @narendramodi for a speedy and peaceful resolution to the situation. People are dying!!

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@BPRDIndia police have also cut food and fresh water supplies in an attempt to starve peaceful @IndianFarmers\_

@UNHumanRights are you watching?

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

>> [CLICK HERE TO TWEET](#) <<

.@MIB\_India, @PIB\_India You must show the world - 100's have already been injured, many are missing and many are dead.

TAG IN PHOTO: @MoRD\_GOI, @BPRDIndia, @nstormar  
@PMOIndia, @narendramodi, @gssjodhpur, @mygovindia

@UNHumanRights are you watching?

#FarmersProtest  
#StandWithFarmers  
#TheWorldIsWatching

**Some Suggested Images Below:**



**Message Template to Share to groups and contacts:**



👊👊👊🌾⚠️ SOLIDARITY WITH INDIAN FARMERS TWITTER STORM ⚠️🌾👊👊👊

**This online action has been put together by concerned individuals - under no banner -**

!! Police are attacking peaceful protestors using tear gas, batons and water canons. Hundreds injured, many disappeared and many individuals are already reported dead.

🗣️ 250 million farmers in India have taken a stand against the government as part of the biggest protest in history.

⚠️ The Government of India has shown the world that to protect the business interests of billionaires Ambani and Adani, they will brutalize, arrest, and kill their citizens.

☀️ The government has ordered that internet be cut in and around all main protest sites, which the UN has declared a human rights violation.

***In order to bring attention to these abhorrent actions and clear contempt of democratic rights, we must stand in solidarity with the Indian Farmers, we need to come together and use our voices. There are many things we can do from home to keep applying pressure and to get the message out.***

☀️ These violent actions are unacceptable and need to stop! The continued privatization and exploitation of the land "death warrants for farmers".

☀️ They are not the only ones faced with oppression. Authoritative capitalism is destroying everything everywhere. Marginalized minorities communities are still facing erasure and genocide.



JOIN THE TWITTER STORM!

 **Thursday the 4th of Feb from 11-2pm GMT**

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 Twitter Storm Briefing:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aESGS6f\\_KV3lidsQY2VxhfNmUec\\_68hXBwgwmkitUzA/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aESGS6f_KV3lidsQY2VxhfNmUec_68hXBwgwmkitUzA/edit#)

Ask your MP to support Farmers in India here: <https://agroecology.eaction.online/indiaprotests>

 **PLEASE SHARE, SOLIDARITY WITH INDIAN FARMERS, TAKE ACTION** 

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### **Farmers Protests Open Letter to British MPs:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8DVwpgSrhy8UbQdSxE0xprLRRFKf236EPXpeQkagvIMUMA/viewform>

### **Ask your MP to support Farmers in India here:**

<https://agroecology.eaction.online/indiaprotests>

### **Suggested Articles Below:**

[India's Modi breaks silence on months-long farm law protests](#)

[Why more than 100 MPs and Lords want Boris Johnson to discuss Indian farmers | ITV News](#)

[Meet the women behind the Indian farmers' protests | Agriculture News](#)

### **Sources:**

[Adanifiles.com.au](http://Adanifiles.com.au)

[Why India's tycoons welcome a new Narendra Modi term | DW | 04.06.2019](#)

[India's protesting farmers think new laws benefit Ambani, Adani — Quartz India](#)

### **More Information - Important Links:**

1. [Kisaan Ekta Co. \(Farmers United\)](#)
2. [Find A Protest and Divest Adani, Ambani](#)
3. [AskIndiaWhy](#)
4. [Trolley Times \(Farmers at the borders' Newsweekly\)](#)
5. [List of Farmer Deaths at Delhi borders](#)